FAMILY HISTORY NEWSLETTER

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GENEALOGY NEWS

Compiled by Jack and Sylvia Sonneborn,York,PA

TRAINING VIDEOS AND HANDOUTS FOR USING FAMILY TREE

Much of this edition of Genealogy News will feature aids for learning how to use Family Tree. Some are better than others, some are updated and some are from the original beta release, but there are so many available that you can choose the ones that you want to use.

FS has moved the access to the FT Overview booklet. Go to the Help button in familysearch.org (upper right hand corner.) Click that open and then under the Search box, click open this hyperlink:
"See all family tree training materials (Manuals, videos, etc.)"
Then scroll down to this section, and click on View and Download PDF Manual. It is also evolving. It used to be 7 pages, but at the present, the information about deleting information is missing (probably being revised.) The guide is still very helpful.

Guides and Manuals
Family Tree Quick Start Guide
View and Download PDF Manual
Family Tree Reference Manual
View and Download PDF Manual

At this training site, there are videos as well as other handouts on advanced operations on Family Tree. For those of you who have not even put your toes into the water yet, here is information about a sandbox to play in where you can experiment without messing up any records. It's affectionately called the Sandbox.

Practice here with fictitious information in a Family Tree "Sandbox" without hurting Family Tree: https://training.familysearch.org/training/

"Below is an update to "How to Use Family Tree Wisely" from Author George W. Scott, and below a major update to "How To Use Family Tree Wisely" at www.usingfamilysearch.com.

There is a degree of urgency in working on Family Tree. The only version of the birth, christening, death and burial data which is transferred from New FamilySearch to Family Tree is that which appeared on the nFS Summary Screens. The rest of the birth, christening, death and burial data will not be transferred to Family Tree. (Until recently, FamilySearch had debated bringing it all over, but I am told the final decision is not to do so.)

So, there is the possibility that some data on New FamilySearch could be lost in the transition to Family Tree:
1) Some of the Summary Screens in New FamilySearch were not revised with the most accurate birth, christening, death and burial data, and
2) There are some cases in which the historical documents are contradictory. In this latter situation, the second set of plausible data should be preserved in a Discussion or Custom Event.

Therefore, I suggest you do Step 5 in Chapter G of my manual (which explains the above issue) before New FamilySearch closes down.

FamilySearch had said it planned to close down New FamilySearch at the end of 2012. That seems unlikely, since the Notes, Sources and Other Events in New FamilySearch have not

yet been transferred to Family Tree. So we probably have a few months before New FamilySearch will be taken off the internet. We should use that time to accomplish the above.

FamilySearch is eager to close down New FamilySearch as soon as feasible. The New FamilySearch and Family Tree databases have begun to diverge to the point that some instability has arisen in the system from the divergence, which can only be resolved by closing down New FamilySearch.
George W. Scott
"Author of "How To Use Family Tree Wisely"

SEVEN REASONS TO CELEBRATE FAMILYSEARCH.ORG'S FAMILY TREE

1. IT IS ON ONE SITE WITH OTHER FAMILY SEARCH TOOLS - FS ALSO HAS A RESEARCH SITE ON THE OPENING PAGE. TYPE IN A NAME AND HIT "SEARCH." YOU WILL HAVE ACCESS TO ALL RECORDS INDEXED OR DIGITIZED AT FS. **EVERYTHING IS ON ONE SITE**
2. On FT, you can get around the bowtie pedigree chart easily, go in and out to enlarge or decrease the chart, expand the length of the pedigree or retract it, and grab onto the pedigree with the cursor hand and reposition it on the page, and print it. **EASY NAVIGATION**
3. Family Tree is editable for accuracy. Many people complained that they could not easily change incorrect records posted by another person on new FamilySearch, but now the feature to correct inaccuracies exists on **FT IS EDITABLE**
4. Sources and citations are front and center. FT wants users to add citations or links to other relevant sources from other sites. Documentation has greater emphasis. [Notes and sources from nFS will be added to FT later.] **REQUESTS DOCUMENTATION**
5. Users can communicate with other users to share research and information, or to discuss discrepancies in information with a living contributor. **COLLABORATION**
6. FT keeps a history of activity on the site. There is a watch feature that will notify a user when a record has been changed and will list who made the change if the user sets up the alerts. **WATCH A FAMILY FILE AND RECEIVE E-MAIL NOTIFICATION IF CHANGED**
7. An added bonus is that a GEDCOM can be added, but FT now allows users to check for duplicates before adding a large number of ancestors at one time. **DUPLICATE CHECK WHEN UPLOADING A GEDCOM**

"Family History research must be approached with the same vigor as scholarly research. The research must be robust and thorough, and all assertions must be sourced."

GOOD EXPERIENCES WITH FAMILY TREE

I am aware of the weaknesses of Family Tree, but our ward has been having an amazingly positive experience during this transition time. That may be because I have been teaching our class about the things that are working, without going into what is still in the programming stages. I have felt like there was plenty to learn in the areas of the program that are in good condition.

I started with a class on the doctrine, which included showing the new videos created by FamilySearch for that first lesson. I then went into several lessons to demonstrate what FamilyTree could do and helped them become familiar with how to edit information, add sources, and submit names for ordinance work. I didn't go into all of the mess with merging right now, although I demonstrated a straightforward merge to show them how the software works. Maybe I'm avoiding reality, but I have every sympathy with what it takes to create a program and get everything working. I can't imagine having people using it while it's still being created!

The last three weeks of the class, I went through a case study. I showed them the grandson of one of my husband's ancestors and the fact that there was no green arrow. He had no wife, no children, and his work as an individual was "done." I then walked them through using FS historical records to locate

him in every census - yes, he had a wife and many children.

We linked the record, added the family members and kept going. After census records, we got into vital records. I showed them when a census indicated that a child had been born and had died between censuses. We looked up his birth and death. We had a birth certificate where the father was listed at an army camp while the mother was in Chicago. We got into WWI and WWII draft records. Everything I did was on FamilySearch, and the point was to show them how much they could do online, in real records, and how much information they could gather in a couple of weeks (not hours) to fully identify someone for ordinance work.

Obviously, not every case will be that straightforward, but I explained that concept as I went. The class saw me add a spouse, multiple children, their spouses, and some of their children - and all needed their work done. Even the father, whose work was said to be done, needed his work done. I showed them how his death date had been entered as 1916, when in fact he died after the 1940 census. His ordinances in 1937 are not valid. My class was in "rebellion" Sunday because we had to end and let the family relations class have the room, so I am going to hold Sunday afternoon sessions to help members with their own research.

It sounds to me like our extremely positive experience thus far has come from the fact that I know which parts of the program to just leave alone for now. I'm perfectly willing to avoid the frustration of the programming issues until the programmers are done. I chose an area where my family needs work (that is not massive LDS pioneer or early New England messes) and the program has worked perfectly. I don't want to come off as being critical. I'm writing this to make a suggestion of something that might be helpful. I have never done a case study like this in all my 35 years as a ward consultant, because it wasn't possible to do it with films in a simple way.

The online records really are changing so much! This method of presentation prevented the "look for a green arrow" attitude, because they could see the problems with that in a real way. They saw how they could find the detailed information fairly easily, so they weren't tempted to just approximate things they didn't know. I walked them through some analysis of same name, same place, but is it really the same person? They got very involved in solving the puzzle.

As an end to the class, I asked if they would like to go to the temple together to do the work for this family. They all feel a little love and kinship from having gone through the exercise, so we are going to do that together. I thought that would be a nice way to wrap up the learning experience. In all my years in this ward, I have never had more than a dozen people attend the family history Sunday School class. This year, we had 40 attend and stay through the entire session. What I am seeing is a significant increase in the Spirit of Elijah, but we truly have to work in the areas where we can make progress until the programming is done. There will be a lot to sort out (I have plenty of early LDS messes to clean up), but I'm waiting on those until a better time. I know their work is done, so I'm making progress with descendants.

Jill Crandell

I would like to add to the chorus of appreciation. When NFS first started there was a chorus complaining about the shortcomings of the program. At the same time I was reading about the handcart companies that got stuck in the snow on the way to Salt Lake. Somehow the similarities of the situations became very clear to me at the time.

No matter in which time period we live our lives, we are pioneers in one way or another. We will have plenty of challenges and things to complain about.

But do we NEED to? How about heading into the challenges and do our very best with the tools we have and leave the problem cases in the hands of those that CAN solve them - and if not, then place them in the hands of Father Time. And let him take care of them.

Helle

Family Tree Update

January 23, 2013 By David Green

Have you tried Family Tree? We have been working hard to upgrade some of the features that are available. These updates are part of our ongoing efforts to improve the experiences of our Family Tree users and will be releasing soon.

Adding the Helper Feature

Family history consultants will now be able to have online access to the FamilySearch account of the individual they are helping. This access feature allows consultants to login to a user's account and work with the user directly, helping them with their questions about Family Tree. This feature is available only for those who have an active FamilySearch account.

Delete and Restore Individual

Users will be able to delete an individual and then restore them back to the Family Tree again if a user finds that they have accidently removed someone they shouldn't have. Detailed instructions will be available to show users how this task is done.

Request Individual Ordinances

Users will be able to request ordinances for an individual directly from their personal page rather than from the family grouping on main tree page.

Match Merge Features

Match Merge updates will allow users to view a list of individuals who are *Not a Match* so that users can review their records individually. It will also allow users to switch records back and forth from the left and right side of the page. If a merge fails, specific error messages will appear providing information on why the merge could not complete the merge and what to do. While Family Tree is sharing data with new.familysearch.org, there will be some requirements for some persons to be on the left side and will not be switchable.

Print Forms

Family Tree will allow users to print their family group records and their pedigree charts in a PDF format.

Family Tree is a replacement for what was new.familysearch.org. Access to new.familysearch.org will be discontinued for all users in the near future.

Training for these new features will be available by clicking familysearch.org/treetraining or by clicking the Help link on the homepage and clicking the **Tree Help** link. FamilySearch Blog

WHY I SUBSCRIBE TO ANCESTRY.COM

I have the World subscription - cost is about $1.00/day. My ancestry is British and Scandinavian before 1840, and American starting in 1840. I use Ancestry almost daily. I think it is the best source for census records, both US and British, and other collections such as US military records, British probate records after 1861, British BMD index, Swedish parish records, submitted genealogies that might include photos, etc. I do the majority of my research from home, and I figure that, in the long run, I'm not paying any more to search these records on Ancestry than if I were driving someplace else to look at records, renting film strips, or anything else besides sitting at my computer.
Venita

Here is the official list of the many resources that are in Ancestry but are not in Ancestry Library Edition. See their comparison sheet here:
http://www.proquest.com/assets/downloads/products/ale_ancestcom_comparison.pdf
Members using Ancestry in the FHC's simply do not get the access or experience that they would get from a personal subscription.
Tom

Ancestry.com Discloses 2013 Plans

02 Jan 2013 11:05 PM PST Ancestry Insider
http://ancestryinsider.blogspot.com/

Ancestry.com recently disclosed its plans for new databases coming in 2013:

- More yearbooks and detailed 19th-century student lists from select U.S. colleges
- Occupational records from railroads in the U.S. and engineers in the UK
- More New York state census years
- More World War II draft cards
- Interactive census experience for 20th-century censuses from the U.S., UK, and Canada
- More birth, marriage, and death records from the Northeast.
- "Deeper connections to early ancestors with AncestryDNA." (Whatever that means.)
- Additional African-American military records and newspapers
- Jewish records created in the U.S. and overseas.
- Puerto Rico records
- Asian immigration files
- Upgraded mobile app able to search Ancestry.com
- Additional birth, marriage, and death records from the UK, Germany, and Sweden
- UK divorce records
- Lord Morpeth's roll from Ireland
- More Canadian military records
- Quaker church records
- A collection of Texas death certificates
- Confederate casualty lists
- Prisoner of war registers from the War of 1812
- American Loyalists' claims
- Canadian ship muster rolls and paylists
- Additional alien depositions
- Alien draft registrations from the southwest U.S.
- Lists of passengers arriving in Canada from the St. Lawrence Steamboat Company
- Updates to the Hamburg departing passenger lists
- All new departures from the UK
- Associated Press records
- Civil War death records
- Land records from Tennessee, North Carolina, and Georgia

Enhancements to Family Tree Maker that will let you update your family tree from multiple computers

Need Historical Perspective?

No history books for the location in which you are researching? Are there daily or weekly newspapers? Try reading a week or a month of newspapers for the time period of your brick wall genealogy problem. You should get ideas of what might have been impacting your ancestor's life during the time period. The newspaper probably won't mention your ancestor, but the perspective you get will be invaluable.
Source: Michael John Neill, Genealogy Tip of the Day.

It's not as easy as the adversary wants us to believe. It's not as hard as the adversary wants us to believe.

PROBLEMS WITH IGI RECORDS OF THE PAST NOT BEING RECORDED

RE: LDS Temple Work - Confirmation and initiatory dates were not recorded in the earlier IGI database. The fields for confirmation and initiatory dates were not even there. (For those of you who may not remember, I am talking about submissions prior to TempleReady when we used to check the IGI on microfiche.)

After the ordinances are completed a second time and a researcher merges the two duplicate individuals, the confirmation and initiatory fields have the dates of these ordinances from the second submission.

So a baptism could be in 1982 and the confirmation and initiatory could be duplicated several years later. So the dates for the confirmation and initiatory might be 1992. The endowment and sealing to parents' ordinance dates might be closer to 1982.

In such cases, the LDS Ordinances would appear to have the baptism, endowment, and sealing to parents ordinances occurring first and the confirmation and initiatory ordinances completed later. The confirmation and initiatory ordinances would seem to be out-of-sequence but this is due to the duplications.

For new researchers, the dates might seem to be in conflict, but they are just reflecting the merging of two individuals and the duplications of ordinances.

This is what has happened to many of my records because duplications have occurred -- either by another submitter or by someone on the FamilySearch team.
Mary S.

Arizona Births/Deaths

Arizona Genealogy Birth and Death Certificates. Talk about doing genealogy in your pajamas: Plug in an ancestor's name and a few clicks take you to a PDF of a birth certificate (1855 to 1936) or death certificate (1844 to 1961); you can print or download. **Source**: "101 Best Genealogy Websites", by Family Tree Magazine

ARE YOU A NEW DIRECTOR WHO NEEDS TRAINING? ...AN EXPERIENCED DIRECTOR WHO NEEDS A FOLLOW-UP?

I have noticed that there have been a number of new FHC Directors who have posted the FH Consultant chat line. Some want to know where they can find out how to do their job. The FamilySearch Department has some dedicated missionaries who are available to provide training to new Directors. Sometimes in the past few months and years, Directors have asked for training and received just a very little bit to not much at all. Since October, a new plan was implemented to provide more detailed one-on-one training to help Directors understand what resources are available and how to access them. Sometimes these missionaries have contacted a Director and discovered that the person was released some time ago. The change was never forwarded to the FamilySearch Department.

My wife is the team lead for this group of missionaries in Salt Lake and requests that you contact the department if you would like this training. (See the note below). This training is not just limited to new Directors; if you feel like you need to better understand what is available to you, please call.

"There is one-on-one over the phone training for family history center directors. This training is with either a full time or church service support missionary and covers all the resources available to help a FHC director with his/her calling. This training has been used for about the last three years and is constantly being updated with new resources. If ANY Director wishes to have this training, all he/she needs to do is call 1-866-406-1830 and ask to receive FHC director training. If he is new, information will be collected to update the information for the Church Directory of Organization and Leaders. The training can be done from ANY computer that has Internet access."

Len Ingermanson

FamilySearch Certified Partner News

January 23, 2013 By David Green

FamilySearch is pleased to announce that iLived.org and FamilyHero.com are the first new certified Family Tree access applications in 2013. These two products join LegacyStories.org as Family Tree Connect certified. "Certified" means the product is compatible with FamilySearch.org and has features that conform to our strict standards of quality. Also newsworthy, a bigger and better BillionGraves is underway since the acquisition by Otter Creek Holdings.

Access or Family Tree Access indicates that you can read FamilySearch Family Tree data from within the vendor's application.

Connect or Family Tree Connect indicates that you can attach references for records, images, stories, and other media about your ancestor. These attached sources of evidence can be viewed by anyone using FamilySearch Family Tree.

iLived.org is Family Tree Access certified. iLived is a new way to document your living history. You can upload and associate memories with photos to your FamilySearch Family Tree. The new iLived website and mobile app records and shares all of your family news in one place. The best part is that iLived has partnered with FamilySearch, so you have access to FamilySearch Family Tree.

FamilyHero is Family Tree Access certified. The new FamilyHero integration into FamilySearch Family Tree allows you to view and analyze your Family Tree. FamilyHero is the only tool that provides a flat graphical view of your complete Family Tree that is not based on a pedigree chart. Use FamilyHero to see siblings, cousins, aunts, and uncles at a glance without the need for pop-up windows or view changes.

LegacyStories.org is now Family Tree Connect. Stories, photos, audio, or video can be associated with persons in FamilySearch Family Tree. "Talking Photos" adds personal audio narration to uploaded photos. Put the leaves on your family tree by giving voice to your ancestors. The site offers a full suite of exciting multimedia features. See a FamilySearch tutorial on the Legacy Stories website.

We are very excited to announce that BillionGraves has been acquired by Otter Creek Holdings. Thanks to our terrific users, BillionGraves has grown tremendously over the past year-and-a-half, and now it is ready to grow even more! Visit the BillionGraves homepage to find out how this will help your family history efforts. You can also meet the amazing BillionGraves team and see who is involved in making this group such a success.

Visit the FamilySearch products webpage to see these new products and all previously certified products. Article posted on the FamilySearch Blog at FamilySearch.org

With great anticipation, we are excited to announce the approach of a major FamilySearch milestone coming in early spring of 2013. One day in March or April, FamilySearch indexing will hit one billion records published in less than seven years. Volunteers will have indexed and arbitrated more than one billion records containing the names and details of the lives of billions of ancestors.

101 Ways to Research Your Family Tree for Free

The most common misconception I find in emails and comments from readers is that there is no free genealogy available online. This is somewhat understandable given the prevalence of misleading ads that promise "free records" and then ask for payment as soon as you get past a page or two. But there really are free genealogy records available online! And yes, these are really free - no payment required. Read Kimberley's complete article.
Source: "Your Guide to Genealogy", by Kimberly Powell, About.Com Genealogy Blog

Question:

Is there anywhere I can find a printed research guide for Norway like I used to get in the Family History Center?

Answer:

You can access the **Norway Research Guide** and print your own, though it may be outdated. Other research guides are available using this alphabetical listing. For more up-to-date resources, use the FamilySearch Wiki. The wiki articles are hypertext. They can be printed but not in the form of booklets.

GNIS (Geographic Names Information System)

"To aid me in determining a location within the United State, I use the GNIS database interface supplied by the Yale Peabody Museum. GNIS is the Geographic Names Information System from the U.S. Geological Survey. You can also use their search interface here: GNIS Feature Search. I prefer the simplicity of the Yale Peabody interface."
Source: Cindy, at Cyndi's List Blog, posted Oct 2, 2011

New Year's Resolutions

Do any of your New Year's Resolutions include family history? This is a great time to set new goals to further your family history research. Here are a few common family history resolutions and a few tips for helping you stick to them this year:

- **Get Involved** - 2013 is a great year to start getting involved in researching and recording your family history. There are now so many opportunities to help you research. Attend a conference or webinar. Check out a few online databases. Find an online community to share tips and tricks with. Contact relatives you know are involved in family history research-remember, you can share research easily through FH notebook.
    - **Tip**: If you don't know quite how to jump in, record your own memories using FH media. Don't be afraid or embarrassed to type or record your personal history-it's important, too!
- **Get Organized** - Remember our recommendation to collect memories this holiday season? I hope you were able to do that. If you did, you already have items ready to be organized in your FH notebook. Now, go through your files and organize any family history information you have into your FH notebook, where it will be safely backed up on our servers. You want to start the year off without any nagging feelings. If you can't organize certain items right away, create a task to remind you to do it later.
    - **Tip**: Be systematic about your organization. You probably won't be able to get everything moved over in one sitting, so make a plan that will allow you to be thorough and efficient as you gather and upload items to your FH notebook.

- **Get Excited** - You may be overwhelmed by the mountain of work ahead of you-your family history is never really

complete-so try to find something that excites you. If you feel nagged or obligated to start your research, there is only a small chance that family history will turn into your favorite hobby. However, if you find motivation to keep you going when you hit a dead end or get confused, then you'll find a way to continue working on your family history. My motivation comes from listening to actual recordings of my ancestors. For Christmas, my uncle compiled a CD of stories told by my great-great grandmother and mailed them to members of the family. Wow! It is amazing to hear her voice and have those stories recorded and passed around the family. Now that we each have a copy of her stories, (now digitized thanks to my uncle's hard work), the chances of losing those stories are slim.

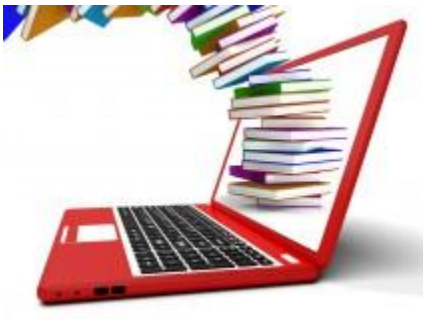
- **Tip**: Using your FH notebook, break down your family history into smaller, manageable chunks. As we've suggested, you can create a notebook for each side of the family. Within those notebooks, you can create notebooks for specific people or time periods; find a topic you are interested in, and create a notebook for it. This notebook will give you direction as you continue your research.

Source: "New Year's Resolutions", FH Notebook, an online family history notebook blog, posted Jan 5, 2012 by Laura

"You can fulfill your obligation to your kindred dead and to the Lord without forsaking your other Church callings. You can do it without abandoning your family responsibilities. You can do this work. You can do it without becoming a so-called "expert" in it." Boyd K. Packer,
"Someone Up There Loves You," *Ensign*, Jan. 1977, 8

New Research Lessons Added to FamilySearch.org—January 2013

January 11, 2013 By Anne Metcalf



The Learning Services Group at FamilySearch.org continues to create new learning courses to help patrons learn how to make the most of the resources that FamilySearch has to offer. Below are some of the courses that are now available at FamilySearch.org.

- Clues and Tips for England Research: Part I: Numbers, Counting, Money, Calendars, Dates, Days, Years
- Clues and Tips for England Research: Part II: Reading Records
- Clues and Tips for England Research: Part III: Church of England Church Records and Finding Marriages
- Clues and Tips for England Research: Part IV: Children and Relationships
- Basic Scotland Research Strategies
- Rubik's Cube Genealogy: A New Twist on Old Data
- BCG Certification: Measuring Yourself Against Standards
- U.S. Measurement and Distribution of Public Land States
- Digital Photography for Genealogists
- Pennsylvania Research: Vital and Church Records
- Researching in the FamilySearch Wiki: An Overview
- Researching in the FamilySearch Wiki: A Case Study
- Brazil Beginning Research Series Lesson 2: Civil Registration Records
- Emmas utvandring till USA-Del 1 *[Swedish]*
- Emmas utvandring till USA-Del 2 *[Swedish]*

- Emmas utvandring till USA-Del 3 *[Swedish]*
- Hur borjar jag slaktforska? *[Swedish]*
- ScotlandsPeople.gov
- Publier son Histoire Familiale en ligne [French]
- Using Online Czech Records: Prague City Archives
- Série Brasil Começando a Pesquisar Lição 1: Começando [Portuguese]
- Crossing the Frontera
- Comprendre l`écriture de nos ancêtres Part 1 [French]
- Comprendre l`écriture de nos ancêtres Part 2 [French]
- Pennsylvania Research: County Court and Probate Records
- Pennsylvania Research: Land Records: Field of Dreams
- Great French Websites
- Little Used But Important Sources: Swedish/Finnish Tax, Catechism, & Danish Communion Records – Part 1
- Little Used But Important Sources: Swedish/Finnish Tax, Catechism, & Danish Communion Records – Part 2
- England Probate Records: Pre-1858 Probate Records, Part 1: Courts and Indexes
- U.S. Hispanic Immigrants: Finding their Place of Origin
- Uso de las partidas bautismales [Spanish]
- Dónde encontrar información de su antepasado antioqueño [Spanish]
- FamilySearch Blog

SOME RIGHTS RESERVED

The American Library Association has several tools related to copyright laws and guidelines which help you quickly determine a publication's copyright status. Another helpful resource is from *Smashing Magazine*. It's a very informative article that discusses copyright issues for online content. It received so much attention that they have now made the article available as a PDF download. This is a very handy resource that should be a part of every researcher's digital library. FamilySearch Blog

QUESTION

"I Have My Family Tree Back to Adam and Eve" Have you ever heard these words uttered? When asked if it is possible for living people to extend ancestral lines back to Adam and Eve, Robert C. Gunderson, Senior Royalty Research Specialist, of the Church Genealogical Department, stated:

ANSWER

"The simplest answer is *No.* Let me explain. In thirty-five years of genealogical research, I have yet to see a pedigree back to Adam that can be documented. By assignment, I have reviewed hundreds of pedigrees over the years. I have not found one where each connection on the pedigree can be justified by evidence from contemporary documents. In my opinion, it is not even possible to verify historically a connected European pedigree earlier than the time of the Merovingian Kings (c. a.d. 450–a.d. 752)."Every pedigree I have seen which attempts to bridge the gap between that time and the biblical pedigree appears to be based on questionable tradition, or at worst, plain fabrication. Generally these pedigrees offer no evidence as to the origin of the information, or they cite a vague source." FS BLOG Nathan Murphy

FamilySearch Introduces Two New Search Features

January 4, 2013 By Robert Kehrer

FamilySearch.org has updated its search system with two new features that will allow users to focus their searches in a dramatic way. These two new features are:

- Restrict Results by Record Location & Type
- Search the FamilySearch Catalog with Multiple Search Parameters

Restricting Results by Record Location & Type
Among the many different genealogical search tasks, the most common are a broad search for any information about an ancestor and a narrow search for a specific record, such as a birth

certificate, for an ancestor. Someone looking for any information about their ancestor who was born in England is usually delighted to see the 1920 U.S. Census record showing the person and his family living in Wisconsin. Those specifically seeking their grandfather's English birth certificate are not so delighted with a U.S. Census record.

Using the new main-page search form a user can designate that he wants only records returned which originate from England. He can also choose to restrict the types of records returned to those of a specific type, such as 'Marriage.' Our search system uses all of the information it has about a record to determine its location of origin and type. It uses the jurisdictional of the known record-keeping authority, the place and type of the primary event on the record, the collection place and type context, etc. There are some collections, like the World Miscellaneous ones, where this information is not known for the records, and these will not be returned in a location & type search. He may want to search these collections separately.

This ability to focus in on specific locations and record types will be very helpful to researchers who are seeking to know if FamilySearch has the records they are looking for.

Searching the FamilySearch Catalog Using Multiple Search Terms

Those who use the FamilySearch catalog commonly look for all the resources from a specific location first and then sort through hundreds, or perhaps thousands, of published titles to find those relevant to their research. The new catalog search form allows users to enter multiple search terms by clicking the terms they want to search on. Filtering on both a place and keyword, for example, will greatly increase the efficiency of identifying the most relevant resources about one's family.

While the new catalog contains the same data as the old, and is getting better and better, there are still essential missing features in this beta product. Until these features are finished, the previous version of the catalog will remain available for public use.

SYLVIA'S GENEALOGY CORNER

WE MUST FOLLOW THE RULES THAT FAMILYSEARCH SETS FOR DOING TEMPLE ORDINANCES OR FACE CONSEQUENCES

RE: LDS Temple Work: Several years ago I sat in the family history center working with a relatively new convert to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. She had learned that one of our purposes as Latter-day Saints is to find (or research) our ancestors and perform proxy baptismal and other work for them. She had just been cleared to do proxy baptisms in the temple and was very excited to get started doing these with her husband. She chose her grandfather for her first subject for temple work. When we attempted to input his information, a possible duplicate came up, and to her complete surprise, she learned that someone had already completed the temple work. The member who had performed this work was distantly related, and it seems that the grandfather may have been caught in the time period between 1902 and 1917 before the rule was changed. The young lady sat there and cried until she composed herself, and eventually we were able to look at the positive side that her grandfather had already been baptized. Gradually, she was able to feel elation that his work had already been done.

I spoke with the individual who had done the work, and he felt bad because he knew that when he had done the temple work, that there were no members in that line at that time, so he had completed the work following church guidelines, thinking there was no closely-related relative to perform it. What he could not anticipate was that this young lady was soon to be baptized. That same evening, she was able to find other ancestors who needed ordinance work, but finding her grandfather's work done was bittersweet. Since that time Family Search has widened the gap to 110 years instead of 95 years for baptism without permission.

How well I remember another incident that a member had with a living aunt who had received proxy baptism. I received a call from this man in the Lewisberry Ward when I served as a support missionary; he had discovered that proxy baptism had been performed for his ninety-seven-year-old aunt who was living in a home in the City of York. Someone had decided that surely she must be deceased, and at the time, it was legitimate to do her ordinances because she was born before 1917 (old rule), so with no death date, the researcher marked her as "Deceased" and forged ahead to do the temple work. Even though we are able to make corrections in Family Tree, we cannot correct this particular problem when temple ordinances exist; we need to report to FamilySearch Support through the Help Button for anyone who is living and who has had proxy temple performed for him or her. I helped her nephew create a case for FamilySearch Support, and the administrators were able to negate the work once we supplied her address. Since people are living longer, the date of 95 years was too small, and numerous older individuals were having proxy work incorrectly performed for them. The 110-year-rule has corrected that.

These are just two incidents that have happened because some people are excited about doing this great work, sometimes with disregard for rules; on occasion they find out that they may have caused some regret in the hearts of others more closely related to the ancestor, or they may have baptized by proxy someone who is living.

Recently a "do-gooder," or so he thought, decided to try to baptize all of the Holocaust victims. Genealogical researcher and ex-Mormon Helen Radkey was instrumental in discovering this practice. When this happened, there was a large rejection of this practice by those of the Jewish faith as well as our Church. The Church had to remove all of those records from their websites, apologize to the Jewish community, and then issue a mandate to members that they no longer can baptize those of Jewish descent unless they are in a direct line of the LDS relative or unless they have permission from all descendants. From the Denver Post, 2010*: "On Sept. 1, the church made an agreement with Jewish leaders, acknowledging that the practice had "unintentionally caused pain," with an LDS pledge to American Jewish leaders to stop the practice."*

While these highly motivated people in their hearts have eternal motives in mind, they still are sometimes breaking the rules for ordinance work. Even more outlandish is the practice of proxy baptisms for famous people:

"Overzealous Mormons and some pranksters have caused the church considerable embarrassment by baptizing — often without their families' permission — the famous and the infamous, such as Pope John Paul II, serial killer Ted Bundy, cartoon character Mickey Mouse and very recently, "Crocodile Hunter" Steve Irwin...." Denver Post

Helen Radkey also claims that she has found movie stars, like Audrey Hepburn, Rita Hayworth, Ernest Hemingway, Adolph Hitler and Eva Braun, in the Mormon's International Genealogical Index.(Denver Post) Even worse is finding fictional characters from novels or TV shows being baptized by proxy by members. An example is the use of family names of the fictitious characters of Little House on the Prairie for ordinance work.

So as not to cause confusion, this article will outline the rules for temple ordinance work.

GUIDELINES FOR PROXY WORK

As a result of embarrassment and the discovery of work for fictional characters and movie stars, The Church of Jesus Christ has issued guidelines for proxy baptism:

113599 Knowledge Document;

At the RootsTech 2012 conference, it was announced that the 95-year rule relating to getting permission before doing ordinances for the dead has changed.

The new policy is as follows:
Before doing ordinances for a deceased person born in the last 110 years, please remember that close relatives may not want the ordinances performed, or they may want to do the ordinances themselves.

If you are not related or cannot obtain the necessary permission, then you should not perform the ordinances.

Guidelines for Reserving Ordinances

As you reserve ordinances, be aware of a few guidelines.

- To do ordinances for a deceased individual born in the last 110 years, you must either be one of the closest living relatives, or you must obtain permission from the closest living relative. If you are not a spouse, child, parent, or sibling of the deceased, please obtain permission from the closest living relative before doing the ordinances. The closest living relatives are, in this order: an undivorced spouse (the spouse to whom the individual was married when he or she died), an adult child, a parent, or a brother or sister. Verbal permission is acceptable.
- Reserve ordinances for your deceased ancestors. Do not reserve ordinances for celebrities, Holocaust survivors, and other individuals who are outside of your family line.
- There is no limit on the amount of time that ordinances can be on your Temple Ordinances list. Reserve only the amount that you can do in a timely manner. Other relatives may also want to perform ordinances for shared ancestors.

  Note: The more ordinances you reserve, the longer it takes for your Temple Ordinances List to load.

- If you have many ancestors who need ordinances, we recommend that you do not print large numbers of family ordinance cards to give to others. It is very easy for cards to be lost. And even though you can reprint lost cards, there is a risk that the ordinances will be done again if the original cards are found. Reserving large numbers of ordinances also causes your Temple Ordinances list to load very slowly.
  - Instead, do one of the following if possible:
    Encourage your relatives to use the new FamilySearch website to select and reserve the ordinances that they would like to perform.
  - Assign ordinances to the temple.

    Note: If you assign ordinances to the temple, the individual's names remain on your Temple Ordinances list until all of the reserved ordinances are completed.

When The Church created the rule that deceased persons born 95 years ago or longer could be baptized, it also caused a huge problem for FamilySearch. People would look at their records of anyone born over 95 years ago, add "Deceased" in the Died box, and proceed to do the ancestor's temple work if he was born before 1917, not even considering that the person may still be living.

This new 110 year rule created a gap, and many of us had done work for those born before 1917 (allowed until 2012) and who were legitimately deceased. Now we had on our temple list people whose work needed permission with the change of 15 years, whereas before with the 95-year rule, they qualified without permission.

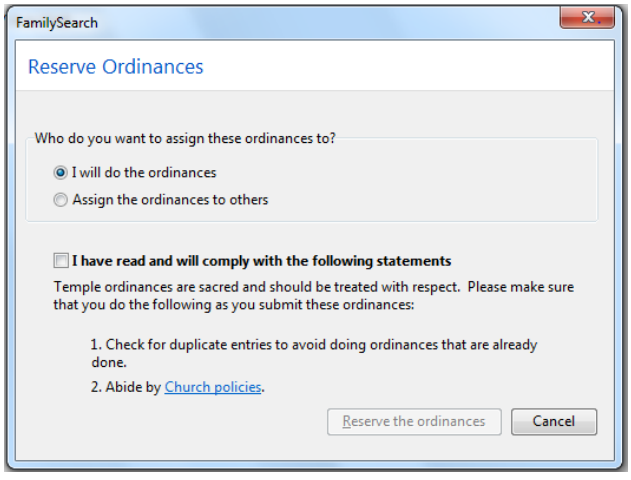
"The old policy was to obtain permission for those born in the last 95 years. The new policy raises the question, "What should I do with ordinances that I previously reserved where the individual was born more than 95 years ago but less than 110 years ago (the new policy time frame)?"

The answer is that if you reserved ordinances for an individual while the 95-year policy was in effect, and if you have had temple cards printed for the person, then you should complete the temple work. However, if you have individuals on your reservation list that are in the gap between 95 and 110 years and you have not had temple cards printed for them, then you should follow the new policy to obtain permission or else unreserve the ordinances. **Document ID: 113679**

Despite the Guidelines, patrons continue to break the rules. Up to this point, FamilySearch has slapped them on the wrist when a member complained that someone had performed a close family member's temple work without permission. By mistake I received such a letter for a man born in 1915, and the party claimed that I was not related because she did not know me. As it turned out, I had performed the work when the 95-year-old rule was in effect, and the man was a great-grandson of Solomon Hammer, and I am a great-great-granddaughter. After I responded, I received a letter of apology, and the lady complaining received a note that I had legitimately been operating under the rules at the time that I had his temple work done. At that time, though, I removed from my reservation list anyone who fell between 1902 and 1917 that I had not approached the family for permission.

IF PATRONS CONTINUE TO BREAK RULES FOR RESERVING TEMPLE ORDINANCES, CONSEQUENCES WILL BECOME MORE SEVERE

With the newly-created Family Tree, when we reserve temple work, we must pledge that we are following the rules set down by The Church For those who break the rules, the consequences will become more severe. Here is the pledge that we sign. "I have read and will comply with the following statements." You can also open the hyperlink "Church Policies" and read those policies before you reserve the name.


FamilySearch
Reserve Ordinances
Who do you want to assign these ordinances to?
I will do the ordinances
Assign the ordinances to others
I have read and will comply with the following statements
Temple ordinances are sacred and should be treated with respect. Please make sure that you do the following as you submit these ordinances:
1. Check for duplicate entries to avoid doing ordinances that are already done.
2. Abide by Church policies.
Reserve the ordinances
Cancel

After many deliberations at FamilySearch, FS has been deciding how to become more proactive in reprimanding the people who are breaking the rules. FamilySearch is concerned about those patrons who break rules by submitting famous people, people born within the past 110 years submitted without permission, and people born prior to 1500 for temple ordinance work.

In the past, violators were asked to stop. Now FamilySearch is hoping to curb the problem by calling the patron on the first instance of breaking the rule as well as calling the violator's Stake President. Usually the person would lose his/her privileges for a period of time. If the privilege is restored, the next infraction is to have the account restricted to "read-only" status permanently.

Another type of infraction involves patrons who submit so many names that they reach the maximum number on their own temple list. They convince relatives (spouses or children or even other relatives or friends) to let them use their accounts. If this is discovered, FamilySearch may close the account of the user and of the party allowing the use of his account. A patron is not allowed to use others' accounts.

FamilySearch does not want to resort to these consequences, but FS wants a person to obey the rules. Many patrons have become overzealous in doing work for anyone they choose, regardless of rules. "Temple ordinances are sacred and should be treated with respect." If we have ever broken the rules, we need to go forward with renewed resolve to follow the requirements that The Church/FamilySearch has set up. If we are just beginning to do ordinance work, then we need to read the pledge we must sign after we begin to reserve a name and be certain that our reservation complies with Church policies. Ironically, what we desired to be a blessing will backfire if we do temple work for our ancestors without regard for other family members and without regard for those rules established by The Church. We are on an honor system, and if a descendant makes a complaint about our temple reservations, we surely will receive a call with consequences!

WHAT IS TWITTER?

December 17, 2012 By *This article was written by By Mick Altmyer FamilySearch Blog*

Are you looking for the latest information about topics from "experts" in areas you personally find interesting? Your interest could be gardening, hiking, boating, science or any numerous topics, even family history and genealogy work. What if you could find a public stream of compelling genealogy information from experts and simply follow the conversations in a simple and most powerful way?

I would like to introduce you to a real-time network that will connect you with the latest and best experts covering those topics. This network is called Twitter.

What is Twitter?
Twitter is a free service for friends, family, and your circle of influence who share your topics of interest. It is a way to stay connected regarding the topic through the exchange of quick, frequent messages.

At the heart of Twitter are small bursts of information or messages called Tweets. Each tweet is 140 characters or fewer in length, small in size, but don't let the size fool you. Experts can share a lot within a tweet. Tweets are sent to your personal profile or your blog. This blog, or rich detail pane on your home page, provides additional information and deeper contents. Just scroll down and read. Tweets can also be sent by you to your followers, and are searchable on Twitter search. You can think of a tweet as a headline. Follow the headline/story and receive the information. See it in action.

You don't have to tweet to get value from Twitter
Twitter will connect you to experts in real-time. Family history and genealogy experts are using Twitter to quickly share and receive valuable updates and genealogical information on a daily basis.

Do you need anything special to use it?
All you need to use Twitter is an internet connection or a mobile phone. Once you're in, type your first update into the web box. To get an idea of what other people are saying or doing in regard to genealogy and family history work on Twitter, check out Twitter search to find them. You can search by keyword. Just type "genealogy" and read the tweets. You're sure to learn something new and receive the latest updates on the topic.

What does it mean to follow someone on Twitter?
Following someone simply means receiving their Twitter updates. When you follow someone, every time they tweet, or post a new message, it will appear on your Twitter home page. New messages are added to your home page as they are posted, so you always get updates in real time. When you log in, you can see the latest updates. The really cool thing is you will only receive messages from experts you choose to follow about topics of interest.

How do You Know Who You're Following?
When you click the follow button on someone's profile, you begin following them. The follow button will change to a green check mark next to the word "Following." Personally, I only follow people that tweet messages regarding family history and genealogy work. This is what makes this such a valuable resource. I only receive tweets from or send tweets to people interested in this specific topic.

How Do You Know Who's Following You?
Twitter sends you an email when someone new follows you. Set up your email preferences to notify you when you have a follower. This allows me to check them out before approving them to follow me. I don't want stuff on my home page irrelevant to the topic. The followers link on your profile page or home page's sidebar will also tell you how many followers you have.

Who reads your updates?
It's up to you. Your followers read your updates, and anyone else who comes across them in a search. Your Twitter profile is public by default. If you're hesitant to have strangers read your updates, protect your profile to approve followers and keep your updates out of search.

You can even block them if you find out later you don't like the content of their messages.

In summary, being able to tap into a community of genealogy experts is incredible and illuminating. I've simply lost count of the amazingly talented, smart and insightful people I've had the opportunity to learn from and exchange information with on Twitter regarding family history and genealogy work. It's a wonderful resource! ..... Learn more about ways to use Twitter for genealogy.

FamilySearch Adds New Collection for Ohio County Births from 1841-2003
January 25, 2013 By Rob Goates

FamilySearch added an additional 2 million new, free indexed records and images this week to its collection. Notable additions include the 995,820 indexed records and images in the new Ohio County Births from 1841-2003 collection, and the 363,235 indexed records for the United States Index to General Correspondence of the Pension Office from 1889-1904. Another new searchable record was also added this week for Ohio, Scioto County Probate Records from 1885-1887. See the table below for the full list of updates. Search these diverse collections and more than 3.5 billion other records for free at FamilySearch.org. See the table below for the full list of updates. Full Story FamilySearch Blog

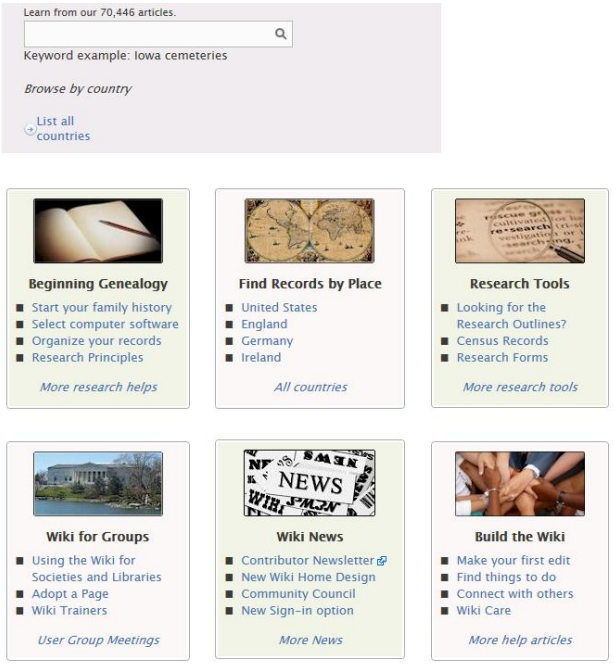
Early Bird Registration for RootsTech Ends February 15, 2013 January 25, 2013 By Amy E. Smith

Join FamilySearch at the 3rd annual RootsTech—Family History and Technology Conference. RootsTech, held on March 21-23, 2013 in Salt Lake City, Utah, provides over 250 informative classes and hands-on workshops to help you learn about the latest technology to get started or accelerate your efforts to **find**, **organize**, **preserve**, and **share** your family's connections, stories, and history. Come prepared to experience world-class content from speakers from all over the country, an exciting exhibitor hall featuring nearly 100 vendors and service providers, and great keynote presentations. Full Story

NEW FACE FOR WIKI

A Wiki is an encyclopedia article written by users to share their expertise on a subject with others. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints has established a Wiki for genealogists.

For those of you who are regular users of FamilySearch Wiki, you may have noticed that our main page has had a facelift. You may ask: "Why?" We will tell you. The page did not let new users or beginners to genealogical research know exactly what FamilySearch Wiki had that could help them! FamilySearch Blog



In the Wiki, the search box (top left) is quite evident. Type in England and do a search, and you will soon see every conceivable thing you need to know to do research in England - or any other country that has contributors as well as a map (type in counties). After all, the wiki relies on persons with experience to make contributions and corrections or additions to the entire compilation. Who better to write the article than you, the readers. On the new Homepage, you will see little boxes that will direct you to other divisions of the wiki. If you have not tried it, you can access the Wiki at familySearch.org, then click on the Learn tab and then find the Wiki link and click on that. Or you can just type wiki.familysearch.org into your Internet browser. It's a great site! Sylvia

DON'T FORGET TO USE THE WIKI

The FamilySearch Wiki is a powerful genealogy research tool that not only saves your patrons' time, but it can lead them to possible locations for their ancestors' records. If you start with the country or state where your ancestors lived, you will find many clues to obtain success in your searches. For example, I was working with an assistant director of a family history center, and we looked at her particular state and discovered there were no records past a certain date for her county. The information she was searching for was prior to the dates shown for records in that county. So, she knew she should not look in the county archives but look elsewhere.

In the Wiki, you will find several pages that will assist you in getting off to a successful start in your new calling. Here are two pages you should start with: Help:Wiki Trainer; and Help:Wiki Trainer Quickstart. Please pay attention to capital letters when looking for an article.

We have provided a Power Point presentation introducing the Wiki, along with a case study showing what we found, using the information in the wiki. The presentation about the Wiki is about 30 minutes long, and the case study is another 30 minutes. Here is the link for this presentation: https://docs.google.com/open?id=18aJk4U5Bnsj-SeBHwGt1KDEoiVvkdZdTovwuKSGpST1CWlRkmCi7zDYNMaVg FamilySearch Wiki Contributor Newsletter January 2013

FIVE-MINUTE GENEALOGY SERIES

FamilySearch's popular **5 Minute Genealogy series** has been revised and updated to reflect new information and provide a fresh feel to the series. Episode 1 focuses on the 5 minute challenge, which shows that by using FamilySearch.org, the average person really can find a record of their ancestor within the first 5 minutes of searching. The content is easy to follow and informative and is fun to watch. There are a total of 20 episodes in the series. FamilySearch Blog

Top 100 Genealogy Websites

Every January, GenealogyInTime magazine posts a list of the top 100 Genealogy websites. The top 10 are often well-known, but there are many others that may be just what you are seeking in your research.

The top 10 are:

- **Ancestry.com**
- **MyHeritage.com**
- **Find A Grave**
- **FamilySearch**
- **Geni.com family tree**
- **Ancestry.co.uk**
- **Archives.com**
- **GeneaNet forum**
- **Genealogy.com**
- **MyFamily forum**

The full list of all 100 websites, along with links, can be found **here**.

*Source: **GenealogyInTime**, January 2013*

Published in Generations, Washington DC FHC Newsletter

TOOL TO SEE ORDINANCES AND MOVE TO ANOTHER PERSON COMING SOON

We are working on a tool that should be out soon that will allow you to see the ordinances on a person and then request that a selected set of ordinances be moved from one person to another.
Ron Tanner

GENEROUS GENEALOGISTS SEEKS AUTHORS

GenerousGenealogists is looking for new authors to add to our team. For more information including our 'incredible offer,' see our recent postings:

http://generousgenealogists.com/2013/01/12/call-for-authors/
http://generousgenealogists.com/community/coaching/become-an-author/

RECORD PRESERVATION MISSIONARIES

14 Jan 2013 - Posted by the Ancestry Insider http://ancestryinsider.blogspot.com/ AT http://ancestryinsider.blogspot.com/2013/01/familysearch-increasing-camera.html

The ***Church News*** of **the Church** of **Jesus Christ** of Latter-day Saints recently ran an article about record preservation missionaries manning cameras for **FamilySearch**. (FamilySearch is wholly owned and operated by the Church.) Here's information and quotes I've gleaned from the article.

FamilySearch has 200 teams in 45 countries capturing digital photographs of historical records, according to Paul Nauta, FamilySearch marketing communications manager. (If I understand correctly, FamilySearch still has a couple of microfilm cameras still in operation. But I digress…) Couples interested in serving in the records preservation effort can learn more about it by going to the website **www.familysearch.org/serveandpreserve**.
There they may watch an explanatory video titled "A Day in the Life of a FamilySearch Records Preservation Missionary."

Becoming Acquainted President Joseph Fielding Smith "It remains the responsibility of each individual to know his kindred dead. … Even if the [temple] work is done, then it is still each person's responsibility to study and become acquainted with his ancestors."
President Joseph Fielding Smith quoted in Hearts Turned to the Fathers: A History of the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1894–1994 (1995), 184.

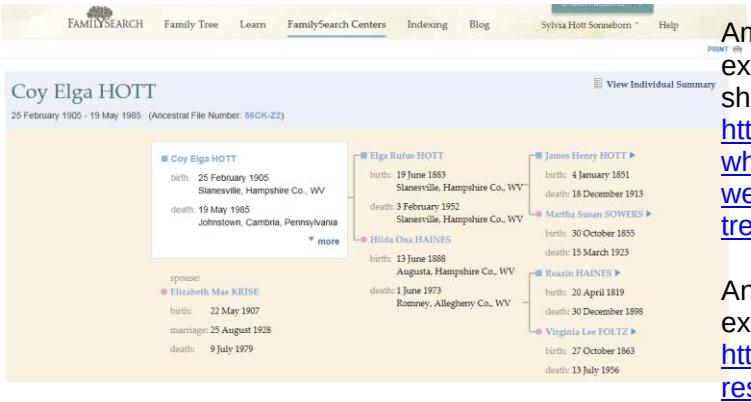
USING UNITED STATES NEWSPAPERS

There are several on-line data bases of old newspapers--the one I use is a subscription data base called Genealogy Bank....It is NOT an exhaustive collection of newspapers by any means, but IT does have both historical and modern, though not for every place.

I've used it for modern obits in East Tennessee, not that I can do Temple work for any of them, as they're much too recent. Still, sometimes it pays to get the info now while it is available, even if it's for future use. I have gotten as many as four generations off of some of the TN obits in my family: children, spouse, parents & grandparents. This is useful because I don't know the children, and may not recognize the parents. But it all goes in my database.
Early US newspapers do not have a lot of obits, and unless your family member was one of the community's "movers & shakers", or infamous, or died in an unusual way, there may not be anything on them. (A friend's gr gr grandfather was run over in NY on Christmas Eve, and nothing showed up in any paper because he was a poor Irish immigrant.) Still, there were a lot of newspapers in the 1800s, so see what is available from the area (State Hx society is a good place to look, and often they will have interlibrary loan reels of film for a small fee, if you can't find it on-line.) A friend who went through her "home town" paper found a lot about the everyday life of the families in the area as they visited or had visitors from out of town.
When I index Omaha papers, I indicate ANY item that indicates somebody died. Sometimes it's just a blurb in a gossip column indicating someone (doesn't say relationship always, but may) was in town for someone else's funeral. If you can't find a death date, having visitors for the funeral gives you an estimate of when the death occurred. They might list cemeteries: and families do tend to use the same cemetery if they're in an area for any serious length of time (so we can all be together on resurrection morning, I suppose). If you can't find an obit for YOUR person, look for siblings, and other relatives, then write to the cemetery office and see what you can find out about other family members there.
Look for wedding stories (may list people visiting for the wedding), anniversary stories, etc.
Karen
www.omahaobits.wordpress.com
www.omahamarriages.wordpress.com
www.omahabirths.wordpress.com
http://omahaareadivorces.wordpress.com/

NEW LOOK TO THE OLD ANCESTRAL FILE AND PEDIGREE RESEARCH FILE

The tab on familysearch.org used to be "Trees," but recently it became "Genealogies." It is located in the upper left hand side after "Records." The opening page has a much cleaner look. Here is an old tree contributed by my sister Eleanor and my husband Jack. Unfortunately the print is small, but you can get the general overall clean view now found in this area. Be patient with the developers. There is so much to do and so little time! Sylvia



FAREWELL TO NEW.FAMILYSEARCH.ORG; HELLO TO FAMILY TREE

Amy Tanner Thiriot has written an in-depth guide describing recent changes made to www.FamilySearch.org. She writes:
"The Church genealogical database NewFamilySearch (NFS) has been frustrating for so many people, particularly those who do actual genealogical research and care about accuracy. NFS allowed people with no particular skill to upload sketchy aggregated online family trees (usually culled from Ancestral File, Ancestry, and RootsWeb) and have their data look as valid as the correct information.
"Family Search recently released a replacement for NFS. It is called Family Tree. So far, I'm impressed. It has solved some of the worst of the problems with NFS, and whereas it was hardly worth correcting NFS, I've found it worthwhile to go in and start correcting the record in Family Tree."
You can read Amy Tanner Thiriot's full article at http://goo.gl/QeeMG. Emil O. Hansen
Originally posted in Dick Eastman's blog

FAMILYSEARCH TRAINING INFORMATION

On the familysearch.org/tree-training there are a few options for handouts or pdf's that can be accessed from that site.

The appendixes in the back of the Family Tree Reference Manual are helpful, as are the Family Tree Quick Start Guide and the links listed on the back page of that guide. (I use these options as handouts for training classes, as they can be printed out and sent home with patrons.)

Amy Tanner Thirot has a great blog entry explaining a lot of the options with some screen shots.
http://www.keepapitchinin.org/2013/01/10/in-which-we-bid-farewell-to-newfamilysearch-and-welcome-family-tree/d-welcome-family-tree/#comment-381671

And James Tanner's blog with some additional explanations from Amy's blog.
http://genealogysstar.blogspot.com/2013/01/in-response-to-comments-on-family
-tree.html

Additionally several of the chapters in the Family Tree user's manual by George W Scott show screen shots of Family Tree with an explanation of how to use the site. Some of these deal with more difficult/advanced options available in Family Tree.
http://usingfamilysearch.com/documents/FamilyTree.pdf
Teresa

"If the veil were lifted off the face of the Latter-day Saints and they could see and know the things of God as they do who are laboring for the salvation of the human family who are in the spirit world..., this whole people, with very few, if any, exceptions, would lose all interest in the riches of the world, and instead thereof their whole desires and labors would be directed to redeem their dead."

FAMILYSEARCH SITE MAP

FamilySearch Family of Websites

Posted: 16 Dec 2012 11:05 PM PST; The Ancestry Insider [AncestryInsider@gmail.com]

What we need for familysearch.org is a good site map....Here's a quick attempt. **Click on a green topic to go directly to the site.**

- **Search**
  - **Historical Records**
    - **International Genealogical Index**
  - **Genealogies** (including Ancestral File and Pedigree Resource Files)
  - **Catalog**
    - **Classic Catalog** (FHLC)
  - **Books**
- **All Historical Record Collections**
- **Family Tree** (visit invite link first)
- **Learn**
  - **Getting Started**
  - **Another Getting Started** (you must login)
  - **Research Wiki**
  - **Research Courses**
  - **Discussion Forums** (stay tuned for tomorrow's article)
- **FamilySearch Centers** (and FHCs)
  - **Order Microfilm**
- **Indexing**
- **Blog**
  - **TechTips**
- User
  - **Settings**
  - **Source Box**
- **Help**
- General
  - **About**
  - **Feedback**
  - **Privacy**
  - **Terms**
- Other
  - **Affiliate Products**
  - Archivists
  - **Careers**
  - **Developers**
  - **Labs**
    - **England 1851 Jurisdiction Maps**
    - **Community Trees**
  - **Press**
  - **Television**
  - **Volunteer**

Family Tree Futures: **Family Tree Update**

Posted: 29 Jan 2013 11:05 PM PST

The Ancestry Insider [AncestryInsider@gmail.com]

Last week in the **FamilySearch** blog, David Green talked about several imminent Family Tree features. Expect these in the next couple of weeks. Below I'm semi-quoting from the article:

1. The Helper Feature available in New FamilySearch will be available for Family Tree.
2. It will be possible to restore a deleted person.
3. Members of **the Church** of **Jesus Christ** of Latter-day Saints will be able to request ordinances from the person page.
4. Users will be able to view and review a list of individuals designated as *Not a Match*.
5. Match merge will allow users to switch records back and forth from the left and right side of the page. (While Family Tree is sharing data with new.familysearch.org there will be some requirements for some persons to be on the left side and will not be switchable.)
6. If a merge fails, specific error messages will appear providing information on why the merge could not complete the merge and what to do.
7. Family Tree will allow users to print family group records and pedigree charts in PDF format.

Finally, access to new.familysearch.org will be discontinued in the near future.

FAMILYSEARCH NICKNAMED FRANKIE

I attended a meeting tonight in Bellevue, WA, where Bro. White of the FHL and FamilySearch was the speaker. He spoke and took questions on FamilyTree. He said they call it "Frankie" (for Frankenstein) because it's built in different places and being put together now. He said they are doing three updates each day and the reason that other programs such as Ancestral Quest, Rootsmagic, Insight, etc. can't yet interface is because FamilyTree is changing so much each day. He said those programs will be ready quickly when FamilyTree is ready because all of the affiliates do their own programming and can do it quickly. Cindy A.

ACCESS TO FAMILY TREE

https://www.familysearch.org/invite/familytree_tab

BROWSER APPS FOR FAMILY TREE

There are two apps already created. 1. The first is called RecordSeek. Go to http://www.recordseek.com/ to see that one; drag the button to your bookmarks toolbar (be sure that is visible). Allows one to put a source into Family Tree on the spot without even having to have the tree open apparently. Have not seen anyone use it yet. 2. Chrome extension: RootsSearch. Searches a number of premium and free websites such as Ancestry, FindMyPast, and BillionGraves (that one is free), and Findagrave. Once installed, navigate in the tree to an ancestor; then open up the details page. A looking-glass icon will appear at the far right of the Chrome browser address bar. Click to open; it will prefill with what you have, but you can change that as needed or desired; then click on one of the buttons on the right to search a given site. A new tab will open so you don't lose your place on Family Tree. URL: https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/rootssearch/aolcffalbhpnojekmimmelebjchjmmgn?hl=en

AVAILABLE FROM ROOTS MAGIC

RootsMagic for iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch is free and now available in the Apple App Store.

It does require the RootsMagic desktop family tree software or the free RootsMagic Essentials software to create, edit, or add to your genealogy files. More information is available at:

http://www.rootsmagic.com/ios.

WASHINGTON D.C. TEMPLE VISITOR CENTER EVENTS

AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR

FAMILY HISTORY SEMINAR (Saturday, Feb. 16 at 10:00 AM –1PM)

African American Family History Seminar— A celebration of African-American history and genealogy; learn about contributions made by Black inventors and how to do your research. **Washington D.C. Temple Visitors' Center website**

Washington D.C. Temple Visitors' Center Facebook page

Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter

DICK EASTMAN REPORTS

http://blog.eogn.com/ January 2013

Articles

The following excerpts are from Dick Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter and are copyrighted by Richard W. Eastman. They are re-published here with the permission of the author. Information about the newsletter is available at http://www.eogn.com.

Private and Simple Family Sharing on Rootsy.com

Rootsy.com is a new, start-up web site that is designed as a private place to share your family stories and connect with the people you care about most. The site allows you: 1) build your family tree, so you can map out your family relationships and explore your heritage, and 2) share photos, videos and stories that your family will enjoy. Everything on Rootsy is private, so only your family can see what's happening in the network.Rootsy.com is not a genealogy site to compete with other sites on the Internet. You won't want to use it to list your ancestors back ten generations, and it doesn't provide places for source citations, and there are no fancy charts. Instead, Rootsy.com is designed as a gathering place for your living relatives who would like to keep in touch with each other. Rootsy.com has a rather strong privacy policy..... Full details may be found at http://blog.rootsy.com/privacy.

Rootsy.com is free for everyone. 2 Jan 2013

UltraFileSearch Lite: A Free Replacement to Windows Search

Did you ever lose something on your hard drive? You exclaim, "I know I saved it SOMEPLACE but now I can't find it!" Indeed, later versions of Windows have the capability to search for files or even strings of data within files anyplace on a hard drive. However, the search software provided by Microsoft is best described as "anemic." Luckily, several third-party vendors provide better products, even some that are available free of charge. Writing in the *MakeUseOf* blog, Craig Snyder describes one of the better, free search programs. **UltraFileSearch** is available in two versions: a Lite version that is available free of charge and a paid version that offers even more functionality.

You can read Craig Snyder's review of UltraFileSearch Lite at http://goo.gl/Q0nH3. The UltraFileSearch Lite software may be found at http://www.ultrafilesearch.com/.2 January 2013

New Genealogy Web Site Calls for Submissions But No Remuneration

Family History Daily is looking for family historians who are interested in blogging on their topic of interest/ expertise weekly or monthly--and writers who would like to contribute occasional articles. All genealogy related topics are welcome.... Interested individuals can contact me at melanie@familyhistorydaily.com. 2 Jan 2013 Posted by Melanie on Eastman Blog

MyHeritage Mobile App Version 2.0 Released

An article on the MyHeritage Blog announces the release of the MyHeritage app version 2.0, a free mobile application packed with several new features. Now you can build and edit your family tree, add more information to it, take your heritage with you anywhere you go. The new mobile app is available for iPad, iPhone and Android smartphones and tablets, in 32 languages, and has been optimized for each platform using cutting-edge HTML5 and SVG technologies. The new app is available now 11 Jan 2013

WikiTree Announces Free GEDCOM Comparisons

The following announcement was written by WikiTree: January 8, 2013: WikiTree is proud to announce its new GEDMatches tool, open to all genealogists. This tool enables anyone with a GEDCOM to compare his family tree with the worldwide family tree being grown by the WikiTree community. GEDMatches does an automatic search for each individual in a GEDCOM (up to 5,000 individuals). Each one is compared with the names and dates of the 4.3 million people in the shared tree. Suggested matches are presented in a convenient, sortable table. 11 Jan 2013

Mega.co.nz Offers 50 Gigabytes of Storage in the Cloud for Free 20 Jan

Mega.co.nz launched today as a cloud storage service. However, it is unlike any other cloud storage service I know of. First of all is the pricing: free for up to 50 gigabytes (that's 50,000 megabytes) of storage space. This is a huge amount of free storage. It's easily more than the 2 gigabytes offered by Dropbox, the 5 gigabytes by Google Drive, or the 7 gigabytes from Microsoft's SkyDrive! For those who need even more space, very low fees are charged. Mega.co.nz is available at https://www.mega.co.nz although early indications are that the company's web servers are overloaded. Approximately 1,200 users were signing up per minute in the first few hours after the system launched early this morning.

Writing Challenge

Lynn Palermo writes, "I am calling on all my fellow genealogist, family historians, beginners and advanced alike, to pledge to begin to write your family history during the month of February. Welcome to The Family History Writing Challenge."

The following was also written by Lynn: The Family History Writing Challenge returns for the third year of motivating family historians dedicating daily time for writing their family history stories. Family historians wishing to take up the torch of writing their stories are encouraged to put down the microfilm and pick up the pen for the month of February, and start writing their family history stories. Upon signing up for The Family History Writing Challenge, participating members are invited to declare a goal in the form of a word count and to commit to completing that word count during the 28 days in February. In exchange for the commitment, Lynn Palermo, (The Armchair Genealogist) host of the month long challenge, will send out daily newsletters that include motivational messages, writing lessons, along with instructional guest posts by leading genealogists, published authors and editors. Family historians who wish to participate in the challenge can sign up or learn more about the challenge at The Family History Writing Challenge website. The event will run from February 1st-February 28th. 11 Jan 2013

Ancestry.com Introduces New Support Communities

The Ancestry.com blog at http://goo.gl/DjWpJ lists a new addition to the Ancestry.com web site: Support Communities. The announcement states, "We are pleased to inform you that Ancestry recently introduced a new online destination for learning and problem solving – Ancestry Support Communities – it's our latest addition to the world's largest online genealogy community. Whether you're looking to share your experience and knowledge with other members, or want to connect with other product enthusiasts for help with your questions, our new Support Communities are there for you." You can read the full announcement at http://goo.gl/DjWpJ. 13 Jan 2013

Book Review: Online State Resources compiled by Michael Hait, CG

The following book review was written by Bobbi King: *Online State Resources* compiled by Michael Hait, CG This is a **PDF/ E-book**, 784 pages, $15.99 for download at http://haitfamilyresearch.com/onlineStates.htm.

This is, essentially, an indexed book of links. The overall look of the guide is crisp and sharp; it's a credit to Mr. Hait that he's a talented writer who knows how to design a readable, understandable, and engaging publication. *Online State Resources* is a large index of websites and links to state resources useful to genealogists. Mr. Hait has indexed every state with links to its state and county archives, state libraries, state health departments, county court records, historical societies, genealogical societies, university libraries, public libraries, and others. 16 Jan 2013

Saving Memories Forever Launches Free Genealogy App for Android Devices

Now iPhones and Android Devices Can Be Used To Easily Record and Share Family History Through Audio Recordings.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Jan. 15, 2013 – Saving Memories Forever™ (SMF), has just launched its new Android app. The application expands upon the previously introduced iPhone app, making interviewing and preserving family stories through audio recordings even easier. The technology helps families build meaningful story archives they can share and manage through the SMF website, http://www.SavingMemoriesForever.com. Both apps are free. For additional information visit http://www.SavingMemoriesForever.com. 16 Jan 2013

New Audio Podcast to Feature Tips on New England Research

The following announcement was written by Marian Pierre-Louis:

MILLS, M.A. (January 21, 2013) – Professional genealogist and house historian, Marian Pierre-Louis has developed a new genealogy show in audio (podcast) format called *On-Site Research New England*. Shows will be broadcast bi-weekly through the On-site Research New England website (http://www.ResearchNewEngland.com) and will made available through iTunes.
On-site Research New England is a podcast created to help all people do historical research in New England.

21 Jan 2013

Dell's Project Ophelia: Carry Your Computer in your Pocket

Dell wants to replace your desktop and laptop computers. The company has introduced a new computer that looks like a USB memory stick (also known as a flash drive).

Ophelia uses a Mobile High-Definition Link (MHL) to draw power to boot from an HDTV display, or it can be powered off a USB port. It has integrated Bluetooth and Wi-Fi capability for connecting to a keyboard, a mouse, and the network, and it runs the Android 4.1 (Jelly Bean) operating system with all of the functionality of a tablet. It can also be used to power virtual instances of other desktop operating systems on a remote server or in the cloud.

You can see the Ophelia device in the above picture. It looks like a flash drive. The glasses are included simply to give a comparison showing the small size of the computer. 23 Jan 2013 [The entire article is very informative and interesting. Check it out on the Eastman Blog.]

AT&T Says "The Telephone Network is Obsolete"

I have written a number of times about VoIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) telephones. I got rid of my old-fashioned telephone several years ago and now use a computerized VoIP phone supplemented by a VoIP cell phone. (My previous articles can be found by starting at http://goo.gl/fNnHx.) Today I found that one company agrees with me that old-fashioned telephone systems are doomed and should be replaced by VoIP.

The company that advocates replacing standard telephones with VoIP systems does have a bit of experience in the telephone business. The company is AT&T. Two months ago, AT&T petitioned the Federal Communications Commission to plan for the retirement of traditional phone networks. The petition is available at

http://www.att.com/Common/about_us/files/pdf/fcc_filing.pdf. You can read more in the *ars technica* web site at http://goo.gl/Mlnqm. 23 Jan 2013

Scanning: Do It Yourself or Outsource?

The Library of Congress Digital Preservation newsletter has an article that will probably interest anyone thinking of scanning family photos, slides, negatives or film. Quoting from the article:

"At our personal digital archiving events, we get various questions about scanning family photos, slides, negatives and film. Questions like: What type of scanner should I use? What resolution should I use? How can I scan negatives? While we've focused on developing tips and resources for saving personal digital materials created with software and hardware, we recognize that individuals have both analog and digital materials and are looking for guidance on how to deal with both.

"If you're interested in converting your personal collections of photos or documents to digital files, you have two options. One, you can scan your own materials (or DIY). Two, you can outsource or use a scanning service to do it for you."

The article then goes on to explain several options. You can read the full article at http://goo.gl/Cz03K.
25 Jan 2013

Access Archives: The Newsletter of the Pennsylvania State Archives

The Pennsylvania State Archives publishes a quarterly newsletter that is available in digital format on the Web. Editor Joshua Stahlman obviously spends a lot of time producing this high-quality publication.

One article in the latest edition that interested me was Death Certificate Digitization, a project underway now to digitize and index historically valuable documents from the Pennsylvania State Archives' collections. Other articles in the current edition include:

- A Message from the State Archivist
- Navigating the Turnpike Records Project
- An AWOT Success Story (a story about Carl Bloss, Volunteer Archivist at the Bethany Children's home in Womelsdorf, PA and a reader of the EOGN newsletter)
- Archives Volunteer (a story about Rachel Brockman, a junior majoring in history at Millersville University and a volunteer at the Archives)
- I'll Take the Stairs, Thanks
- Web Updates (describing PDF images of nearly 500 posters, most relating to political issues, the Civil War, World War I, and World War II have been uploaded to the MG-200 Poster Collection page)

You can read this great e-newsletter at http://goo.gl/Q5MxF. 24 Jan 2013

BitTorrent Launches Syncing Service to Compete with Dropbox

Now BitTorrent Inc. has launched BitTorrent Sync, a pre-Alpha service for syncing files between devices. The new service is very much like Dropbox but with one major difference: it doesn't store any files on anyone else's servers. In fact, it doesn't store any files anywhere in the cloud. It only copies files directly from one computer you own to another computer you own (or to a friend's computer that you explicitly allow into your personal "network") without intermediate storage anywhere else. This is accomplished by using peer-to-peer technology: all files are copied directly from one of your computers to another of your computers with no intermediate servers involved.

You can read more on the Official BitTorrent Blog at http://blog.bittorrent.com/2013/01/24/test-bittorrent-sync-pre-alpha/ and at the new software's forum at http://forum.bittorrent.com/forum/56-bittorrent-sync/. You can sign up for the test at http://labs.bittorrent.com/experiments/sync.html. 25 Jan 2013

BillionGraves.com Now Searchable on Ancestry.com

Ancestry.com and BillionGraves.com have a new agreement in which BillionGraves is now searchable on Ancestry.com. In the past, the only way to search BillionGraves.com was to go directly to the BillionGraves.com web site. The new search adds "one stop searching" from the popular Ancestry.com web site. You also can directly search only the BillionGraves.com database by going to http://search.ancestry.com/search/db.aspx?dbid=70734. 26 Jan 2013

How to Go Completely Paperless in Two Days

I have written several times about the advantages of being paperless. I did so several years ago and love the idea of not wasting paper and not having to file all sorts of things in binders or filing cabinets. However, it required months for me to get used to the idea. Now Adam Dachis describes how he made the change in two days.

You can read Adam's article at http://goo.gl/enQNk. 27 Jan 2013

How to Find Information on a Specific Site

Here is a simple trick I have used dozens of times and yet I discovered recently that several of my friends didn't know about it. Google searches are great at finding information on the Web but Google also frequently floods you with too many hits. Finding what you want is difficult if Google found 10,000 occurrences of the words you want to find.

If you happen to know the exact web site that has the information you seek, you can tell Google to search only that one web site. For instance, let's say that you think you saw an article on paperless genealogy in a past edition of *Eastman's Online Genealogy Newsletter* and you wish to read the article again. Go to http://www.google.com and enter the following into the search box:
site:eogn.com paperless genealogy

The key here is to use the search term "site" followed by a colon to specify a search of only that one web site. Note there is no space after the colon. I find the "www." is optional, so I usually omit those letters.
You can also perform exactly the same search (and a lot more) by using Google's Advanced Search page at http://www.google.com/advanced_search. If you are not familiar with Advanced Search, I suggest you go to http://www.google.com/advanced_search and try it now. That page can help you quickly narrow your searches to exactly what you seek. 28 Jan 2013

News from the SSDI Front

There's news on the Social Security Death Index front — some bad, some worse, and some that just might possibly end up being at least neutral if not actually good. Judy Russell provides the latest updates in an article in *The Legal Genealogist* at http://www.legalgenealogist.com/blog/2013/01/30/news-from-the-ssdi-front/. 30 Jan 2013

I like to pick out some interesting information from Dick Eastman, but you can subscribe to the free issue or the plus (paid) issue of his newsletter and follow it almost daily yourself. I am constantly amazed at the technology being created that is available for genealogists. Hope you found something interesting and useful. Sylvia

For copies of Genealogy News, go to

http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~payork/York2Ward/

Thanks to Don and Jeanine Hartman of Utah for posting the newsletter online for us. You can contribute your family history of original York County ancestors at

http://familyhart.info

Happy Valentine's Day

This newsletter is compiled by Jack and Sylvia Sonneborn, family history consultants of the York 2nd Ward, for use within the ward. It is also e-mailed to parties interested in family history. It is not an official publication of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.
Contact Jack or Sylvia at
jsonneborn@verizon.net or
slysyl@verizon.net

That's all, Folks!